

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /134 W

----- 012995

R 251608Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5283

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 15195

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, GW

SUBJECT: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN GUILLAUME INVESTIGATION

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE SEPT 20 APPEARANCE OF BRANDT AND GENSCHER BEFORE THE GUILLAUME COMMITTEE BROUGHT NO CLARIFICATION TO WHAT HAS BECOME A VERY CONFUSING AFFAIR. THE TWO COALITION POLITICIANS ATTEMPTED TO LAY THE BLAME AT SECURITY CHIEF NOLLAU'S DOORSTEP AND THE OPPOSITION IS CALLING FOR HIS RESIGNATION. THE AFFAIR IS EXPECTED TO DRAG ON, A DEVELOPMENT WHICH SHOULD BENEFIT THE OPPOSITION EVEN IF THERE ARE NO STARTLING REVELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE APPEARANCE ON SEPTEMBER 20 OF FORMER CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE GUILLAUME AFFAIR SERVED MORE TO MUDDY THE WATERS THAN TO CLARIFY THE SITUATION. THE BRANDT-GENSCHER TESTIMONY WAS IN DIRECT  
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CONFLICT WITH THAT OF THE EARLIER TESTIMONY BY THE

PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN SECURITY SERVICES, NOLLAU. THE SECURITY CHIEF CLAIMED HE HAD INFORMED GENSCHER IN MAY 1973 FULLY AS TO THE SUSPICIONS ABOUT GUILLAUME AND THAT HE WASN'T AWARE AT THE TIME OF THE EXACT NATURE OF GUILLAUME'S JOB IN THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE. GENSCHER, HOWEVER, CLAIMED THE NOLLAU REPORT ON GUILLAUME, WHICH GENSCHER PASSED ON TO BRANDT THE SAME DAY, WAS INCOMPLETE AND THAT THE SECURITY CHIEF WANTED THE CHANCELLOR TO RETAIN GUILLAUME IN HIS POSITION TO AVOID HIS BECOMING SUSPICIOUS AND ESCAPING, AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COLLECT EVIDENCE AGAINST HIM. BRANDT TESTIFIED THAT, HAD HE HAD A MORE COMPLETE REPORT OF THE SECURITY SERVICES' SUSPICIONS ABOUT GUILLAUME IN MAY HE WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN HIM ALONG ON HIS NORWEGIAN VACATION LAST JULY WHEN GUILLAUME HANDLED HIGHLY CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS. GENSCHER ALSO CLAIMED THAT NOLLAU IN FACT KNEW WHAT GUILLAUME DID IN THE BUNDESKANZLERAMT. THE PRESENT SITUATION WAS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY INTERIOR MINISTER MAIHOFFER'S RECENT STATEMENT BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG, THAT AS OF SEPTEMBER 20, ONE STILL WASN'T SURE IF THERE WAS PROOF THAT GUILLAUME HAD BETRAYED STATE SECRETS.

2. COMMENT. BY LAYING THE BLAME ON NOLLAU'S DOORSTEP, GENSCHER AND BRANDT -MAY HAVE HOPED TO GET THROUGH THEIR APPEARANCES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE IN RELATIVELY GOOD SHAPE. HOWEVER, THE AFFAIR IS BY NO MEANS ENDED. THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION IS PREDICTABLY ATTEMPTING TO MAKE CAPITAL FROM THE DISCREPANCIES IN THE VARIOUS VERSIONS PUT FORTH BY THE WITNESSES AND THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF HARMFUL LEAKS TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS. THE OPPOSITION HAS ALSO PUBLICLY CALLED FOR NOLLAU'S RESIGNATION. A MOVE BY THE SOCIAL-LIBERAL GOVERNMENT TO FORCE NOLLAU OUT, HOWEVER,

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 15195

CONTAINS RISKS. OUT OF OFFICE HE MIGHT TURN ON HIS FORMER SPD FRIENDS AND DISCLOSE EMBARRASSING INFORMATION.

3. SO FAR, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAS REMAINED ALOOF FROM THE CONTROVERSY BUT THE CONTINUED WASHING OF SPD-FDP DIRTY LINEN IN PUBLIC MUST BE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT AND COULD LEAD TO FURTHER TENSIONS WITHIN THE COALITION. IN ADDITION, THE CONTINUED PORTRAYAL OF SLOPPINESS, IF NOT OF NEGLIGENCE, ON THE PART OF TWO MAJOR COALITION POLITICIANS IS PARTICULARLY UNHELPFUL TO THE SPD AND FDP, COMING AS IT DOES SHORTLY BEFORE THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS IN HESSEN AND BAVARIA (SCHMIDT'S POPULARITY CONTINUES TO INCREASE, ACCORDING TO PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS, BUT SO FAR THE SPD AS A PARTY HAS NOT BENEFITED FROM THIS PHENOMENON). AT THIS JUNCTURE, IT MAY BE THAT BRANDT AND GENSCHER HAVE MANAGED TO AVOID  
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MAJOR PROBLEMS IN THEIR TESTIMONY BEFORE THE GILLAUME COMMITTEE. THE OPPOSITION IS UNLIKELY TO LET THE MATTER DIE QUIETLY, HOWEVER, AND SHOULD BENEFIT FROM THE AFFAIR EVEN IF THERE ARE NO STARTLING REVELATIONS.  
HILLENBRAND

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